Die neun Leben einer Katze

von

Charles Bennett

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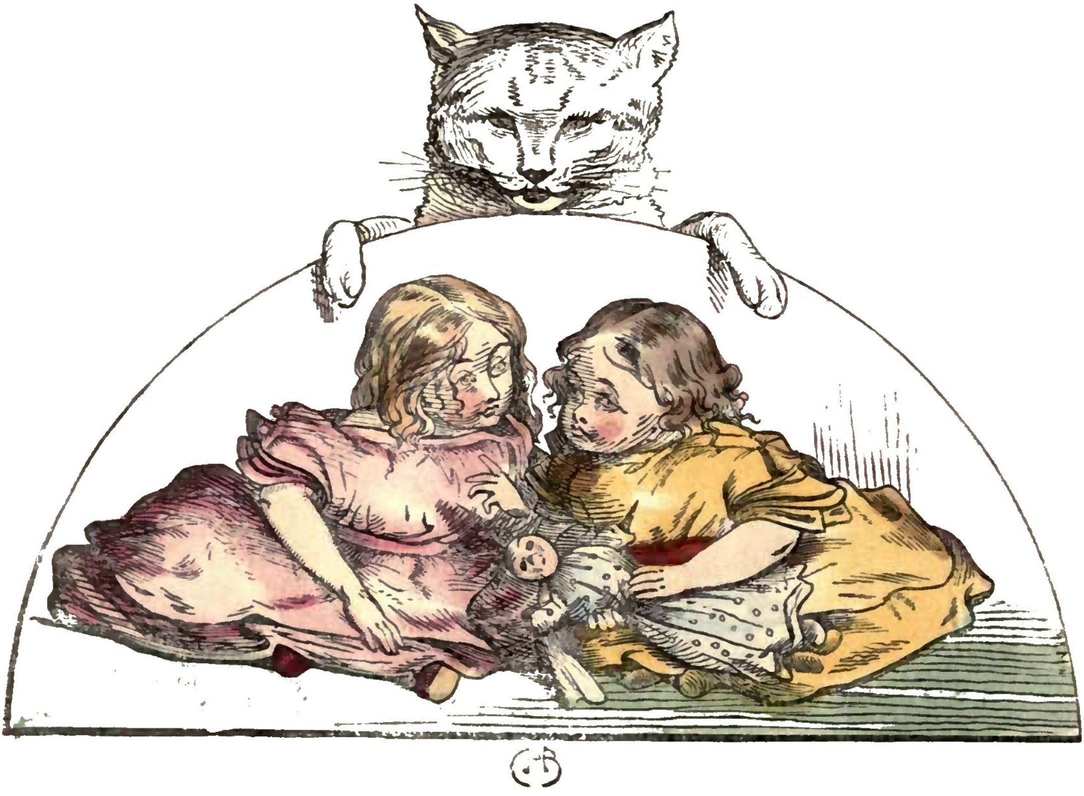

THE NINE LIVES OF A CAT

A TALE OF WONDER

BY

CHARLES BENNETT.

AUTHOR OF "SHADOWS"

LONDON
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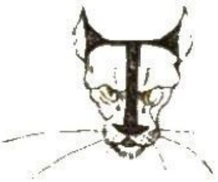

Dieses Märchen wird für Kinder erzählt; deshalb wurde es liebevoll gestaltet und sehr schön gedruckt. Seit einiger Zeit hat es in der Familie des Autors den Status eines beliebten Kindermärchens erreicht; und es wird gehofft, dass es auch anderswo denselben Erfolg haben wird.

Es lohnt sich zu erklären, dass der Kreis auf jeder Seite dazu dient, ein Objekt darzustellen, das mit der Geschichte in Verbindung steht; und da einige davon recht knifflig sind, wurde den jungen Lesern die Aufgabe überlassen es herauszufinden.

London, 1859

Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

NEUN!

Aber als sie jung war,

wurde die arme Kitty gehängt;

Also wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

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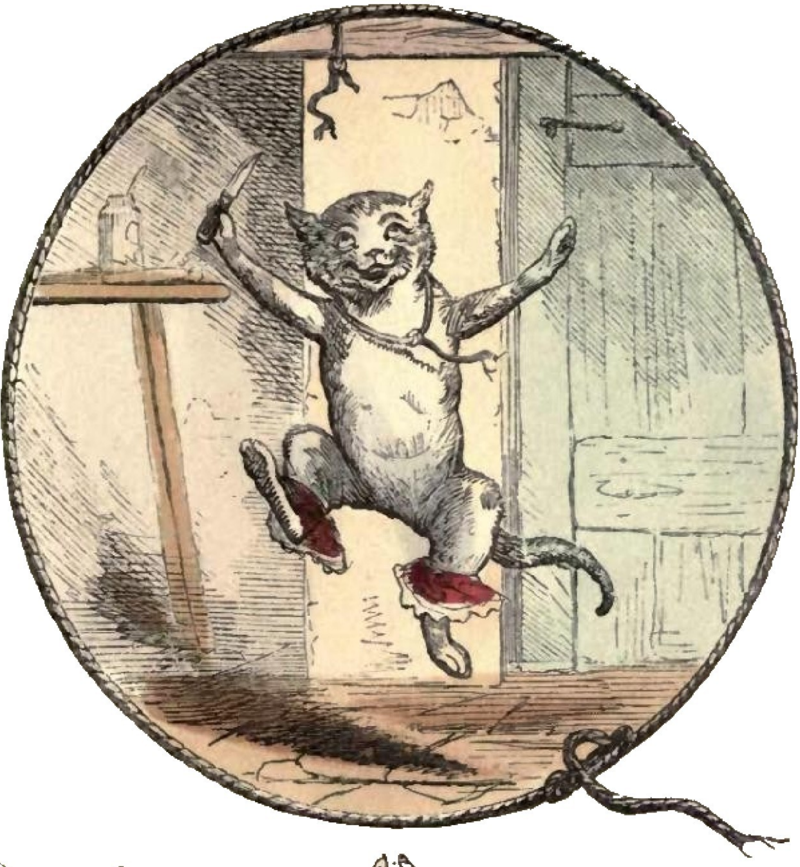


Ja, Kitty wurde gehängt,
als sie sehr jung war;
doch wie zu erwarten war,
zog sie ein Messer aus ihrer
Seitentasche, und bevor man
EINS, ZWEI, DREI zählen konnte,
schnitt sie das Seil durch.

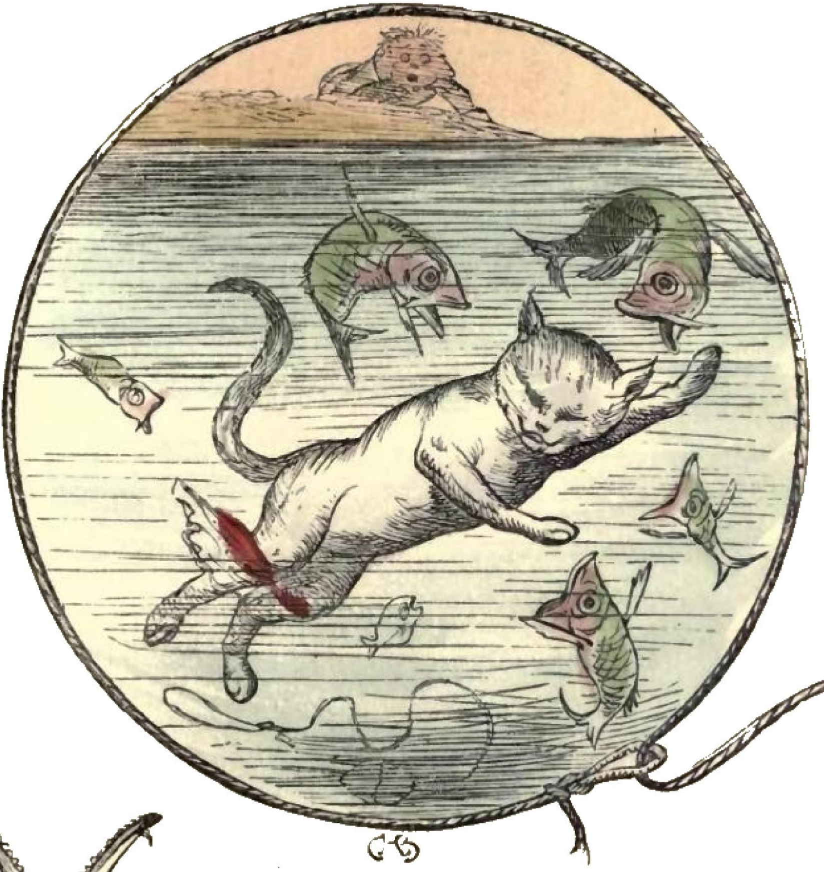
Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

ACHT!

Aber, als sie größer war,

Versuchte ein Junge, sie zu ertränken;

Also wie viele Leben hat die Katze?



Ja, ein Junge versuchte, sie zu ertränken,
als sie fülliger und größer war;
aber, wie man sich es wünschen würde,
streifte sie den Stein von ihrem Hals,
und bevor man EINS,
ZWEI, DREI zählen konnte,
schwamm sie wie ein Fisch.

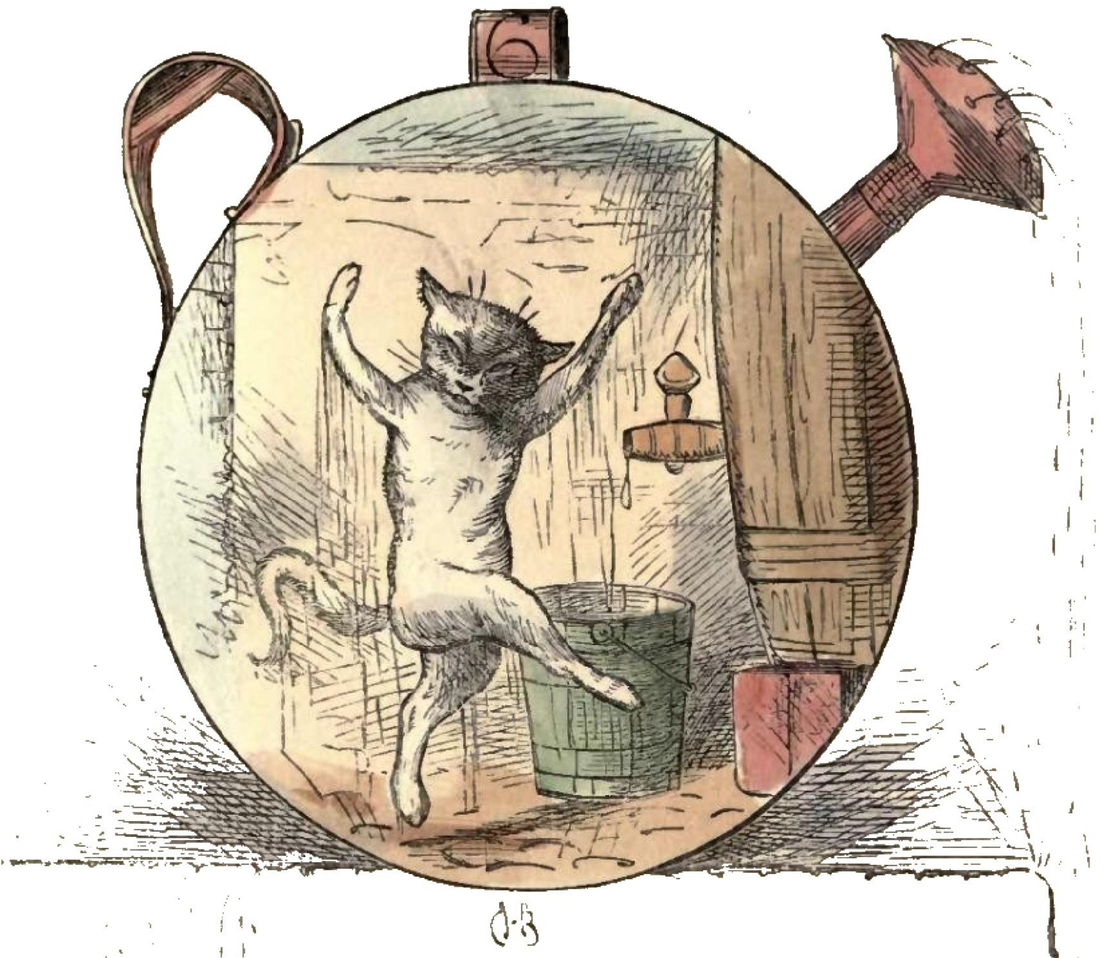
Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

SIEBEN!

Doch, wie ich erfahren habe,

wurde die arme Mieze verbrannt.

Also wie viele Leben hat die Katze?



Ja, Pussy wurde verbrannt,
wie auch ich erfahren habe;
aber, wie du lesen wirst,
sprang sie in den Wasserbottich, bevor
du EINS, ZWEI, DREI zählen konntest;
das tat sie wirklich!

Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

SECHS!

Doch sie fiel vom Haus,

einer Maus hinterherrennend;

Also wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

Ja, sie fiel vom Haus,
einer Maus hinterherrennend;
aber, da das Leben so schön ist,
bevor du EINS, ZWEI,
DREI zählen konntest,
landete sie auf ihren Füßen.

Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

FÜNF!

Aber wie ich höre, hat sie die nicht;

denn man sagt, sie wurde erschossen.

Also wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

10

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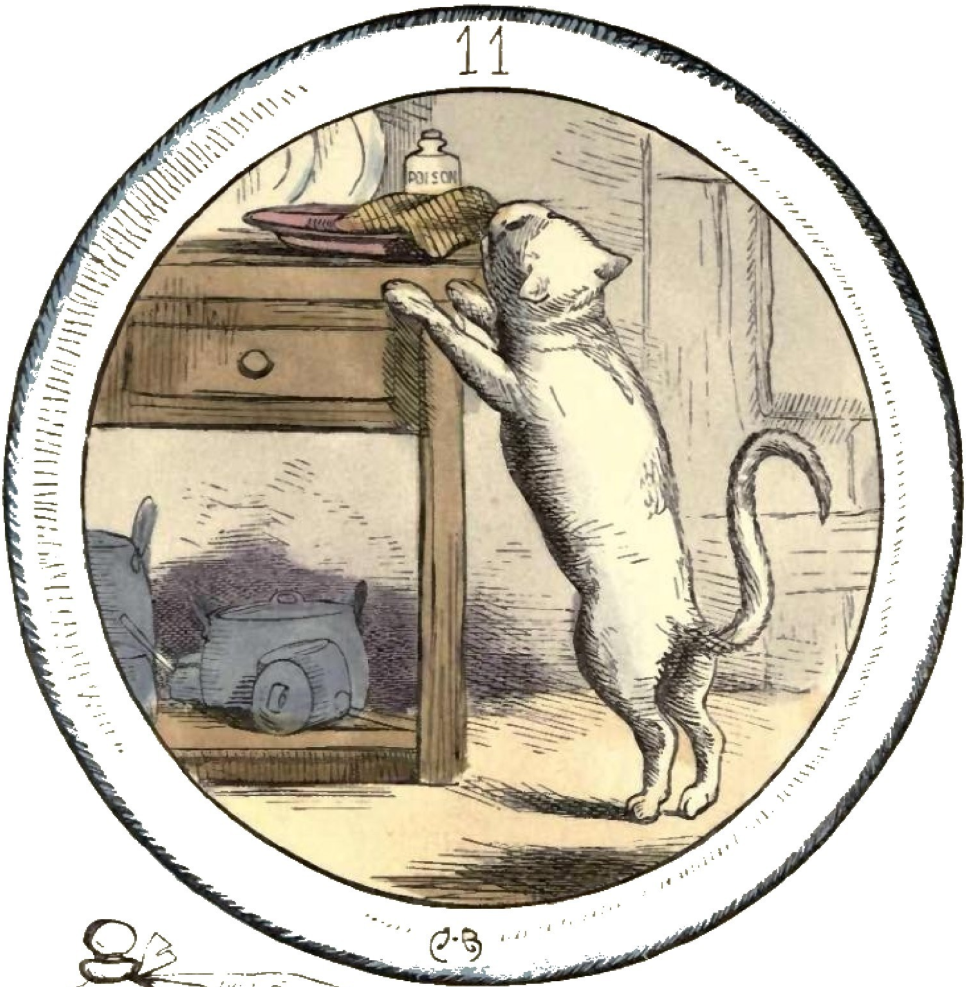
Ja, sie wurde mit einer Waffe erschossen,
und die hatte einen Abzug,
Ich sah, wie der Mann abdrückte;
aber die Katze hielt ihre Pfoten hoch
wie der Zauberer des Nordens, und
bevor man EINS, ZWEI, DREI zählen
konnte, fing sie die Kugel auf.



Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

VIER!

Aber die Leute sagen alle,

sie sei eines Tages vergiftet worden;

Also wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

Ja, es ist wahr, die Leute sagen,

sie sei eines Tages vergiftet worden,

Und es schockierte sie sehr;

Aber im Moment, als sie sich krank fühlte,

und bevor man EINS, ZWEI, DREI zählen konnte,

war sie beim Arzt.

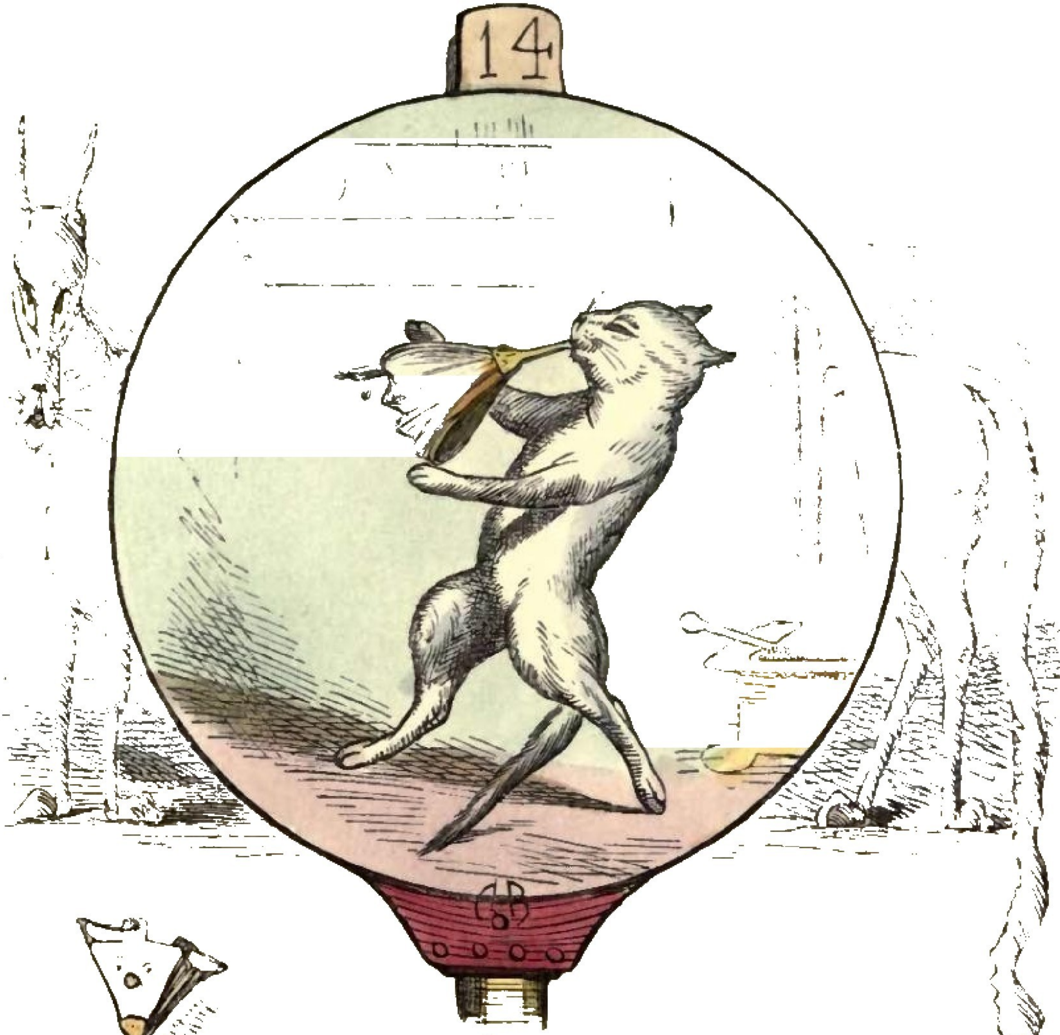
Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

DREI!

Aber dann erdrückte die alte Mauer

sie bei ihrem Einsturz.

Also wie viele Leben hat die Katze?



Ja, ich weiß, die alte Mauer
erdrückte die Katze bei ihrem Einsturz,
und ein Dutzend ihrer Gefährten;
Aber die Katze ging seitwärts in die Küche,
und bevor du EINS, ZWEI,
DREI zählen konntest, blies sie sich
selbst mit dem Blasebalg auf.

Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

ZWEI!

Aber von einem Hund gebissen,

ist sie tot wie ein Stück Holz.

Also wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

Ja, von einem Hund gebissen,
Aber sie ist nicht tot wie ein Stück Holz,
wie du sicher feststellen wirst;
Denn sie kletterte auf den Apfelbaum,
bevor du EINS, ZWEI, DREI zählen konntest,
und ließ den Hund zurück.

Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

EINS!

Doch dann wird sie alt,

und hat eine böse Erkältung,

Also wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

Ja, sie ist alt geworden,

und hat eine böse Erkältung,

Nur Brot und Milch rührt sie an,

außerdem etwas Brei, wobei sie eine Menge

Holz verbraucht, und du kannst zählen,

EINS, ZWEI, DREI, und das sehr oft,

während sie auf Krücken durch das Zimmer

humpelt.

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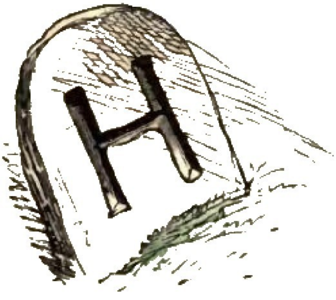


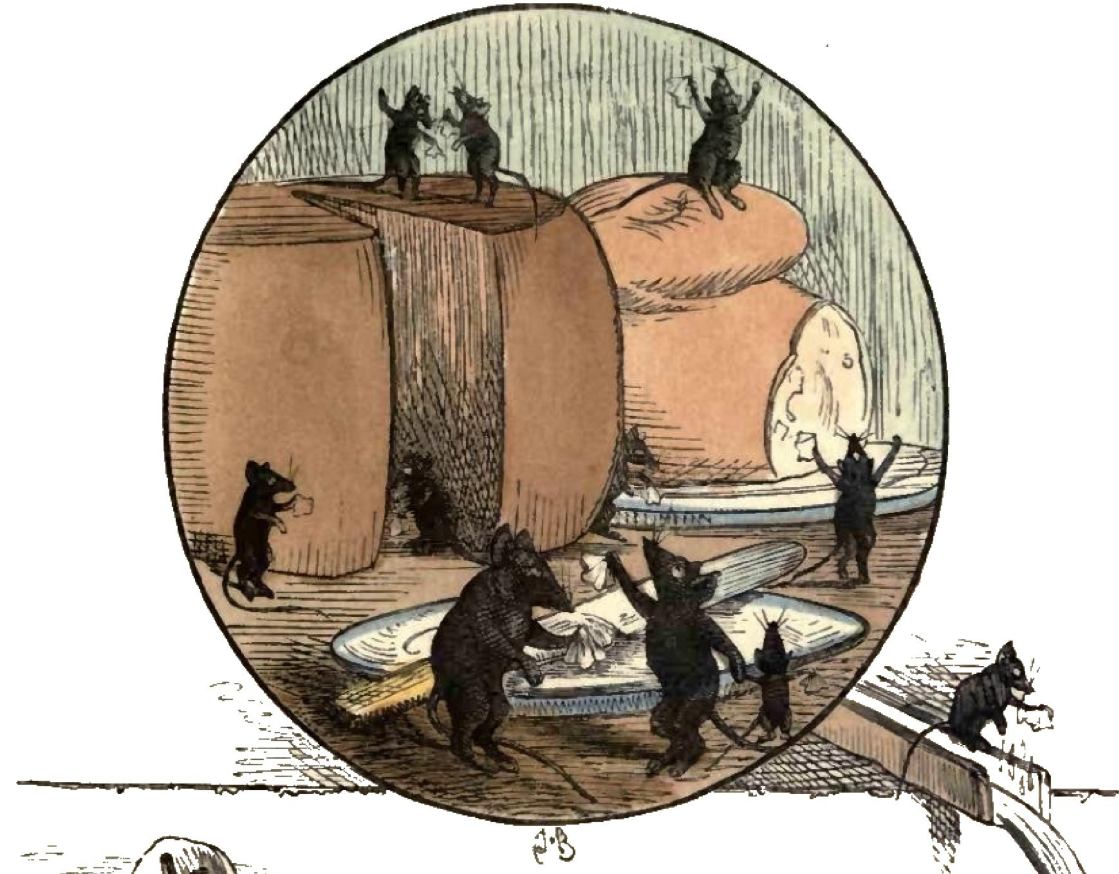
Wie viele Leben hat die Katze?

KEINES!

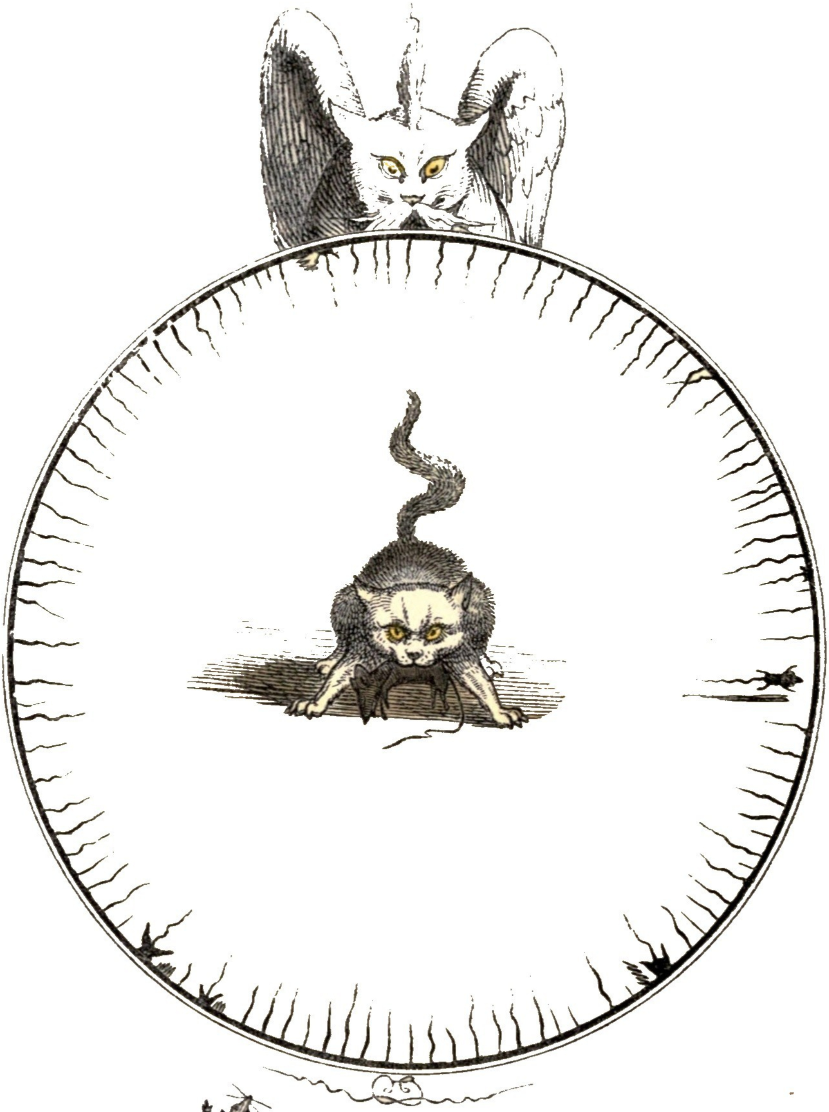
Ist es wahr, als sie sagten,

dass die arme alte Katze tot ist,

So viele Leben wie sie hatte?



Ja, es ist alles gesagt worden,
und die arme alte Katze ist tot,
lass es niemals vergessen werden;
Obwohl nicht EINS, ZWEI, DREI,
sondern NEUN LEBEN hatte sie.



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